



J. M. FERRES, EDITOR.

Let Justice preside and Candour investigate.

J. D. GILMAN, PRINTER.

VOL. I.

FRELIGHSBURG, L. C., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1835.

NO. 38.

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ANNUAL REPORT

Of the General Committee of the Montreal Constitutional Association.

The termination of the period for which the Executive Committee of the Constitutional Association was appointed, imposes on the General Committee the duty of addressing themselves to the entire body of their fellow citizens who have rallied round the edifice of the constitution.

The committee, at their first meeting on the 28th January, proceeded to elect, by ballot, an executive committee, according to the Rules and Regulations of the association; and have received from them the following detail of their proceedings:—

REPORT.—On taking communication of the proceedings since the formation of the association in January last, the executive committee now report:—That at the general meeting, held at the theatre on the 26th March last, the chairman then reported to the Association the proceedings of that committee up to that period, and it is therefore considered unnecessary here to repeat them.

Mr. Walker, the agent appointed at the General Meeting to proceed to England, with and in support of the petitions to the Imperial Parliament, was, without delay, furnished with copious documents, information and instructions, for his guidance on his mission, and early in April last took his departure for England. An early opportunity was afforded both to him and the agent from the Quebec Association, by the Colonial Secretary, to make known to his Majesty's Government, the object and importance of their mission; and Mr. Gillespie, chairman of the North American Colonial Association in London, was appointed by that body to unite with them in urging on the Government and Parliament, the claims and complaints of the inhabitants of Lower Canada, of British and Irish origin.

The determination of His Majesty's Government having been signified to the agents, of sending to Canada a commission to inquire into and to report upon the complaints and grievances of the adverse parties, they, the agents, were informed that no legislative proceedings would be resorted to in the Imperial Parliament, in regard to Lower Canada, until that commission had reported to his Majesty's Government; but that up to the period of the departure of the commission from London, the colonial Secretary would be willing to receive from the agents any communications they choose to make on the subject of their claims and complaints of their constituents; and that the commission would be specially instructed to investigate and receive testimony in regard to all these when in Canada.

On the 11th August last, a communi-

cation was addressed to Mr. Walker, signifying that the committee saw no necessity for his remaining in England on behalf of the association, after the rising of Parliament, and from recent intelligence they have reason to think that he may be daily expected.

The commission already alluded to, it is well known, has now been in Canada about three months; and a letter has lately been addressed to the Secretary of the commission, desiring to know when and in what manner the commissioners will be disposed to receive testimony in support of the claims and complaints of this Association.

The following is a copy of the communication:—

Montreal, Nov. 24, 1835.—SIR,—I have the honor to enclose, and to beg you will lay before the honorable Commissioners, whom his Majesty has been pleased to appoint for the purpose of investigating certain grievances complained of in Lower Canada, a copy of the petition of divers inhabitants of this province, resident in the district of Montreal, which was transmitted to England by W. Walker, Esq., agent of the constitutional association of Montreal, and presented to his Majesty and the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament, during the past summer.

With reference to that petition, and to certain resolutions adopted by the executive committee of the association, which were laid before his Majesty's Secretary of State for the colonial Department (and of which I have the honor herewith to transmit a copy,) I am directed by the executive committee to state, that the association have been informed by their agent, that an interview with which Mr. Walker was honored by Lord Glenelg, on the 13th of June last, his lordship was pleased to state, that all the points adverted to in the resolutions of the Montreal Association would be embraced in the instructions to the commissioners whom his Majesty had been pleased to appoint.—Mr. Walker has further informed the association, that at a subsequent interview with his lordship, to which he was admitted on the 16th of June last, Lord Glenelg repeated the assurance previously given, that the various topics of complaint enumerated in these resolutions, should be noticed in the instructions to the commissioners.

I am now directed by the executive committee to enquire in what manner, and at what time, his Majesty's commissioners will be pleased to investigate the various complaints of the petitioners.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. GUTHRIE SCOTT, Sec. C. A. M.
Thomas Frederick Elliot, Esq.
Sec. of the Royal Commission.

To this letter no reply has yet been received by the association.

[The Secretary intimated, however, that the following had been received by this morning's post.]

Quebec, Dec. 5, 1835.

SIR.—I have had the honor to receive and lay before the commissioners your letter, dated 24th of November, inquiring at what time and in what manner they will be prepared to investigate the complaints of the petitions addressed last year to his Majesty and both Houses of Parliament, by divers inhabitants of the District of Montreal; and I am directed to acquaint you in answer, that the commissioners are at present engaged in consideration of the conditions which it may be proper to annex to the measure of giving up the Crown Reserves; and that, in connection with that subject, they have also before them the question of the Independence of the Judges and the creation of the court of Impeachment. If the constitutional association of Montreal wish to offer any information on these points, the commissioners will be happy to see any person or persons whom they may depute for that purpose.

In order, however, to enable the association to decide whether it be desirable for them to make such a deputation at present, or to await some future stage of the proceedings, I am desired to apprise you, that as soon as the commissioners shall have dispatched their report on the matters above adverted to, it is probable that their next enquiries will relate to any improvements which may seem practicable in the system of managing the Crown Lands, and disposing of the Wild Lands and Forests;—that from thence they will proceed to the Tenures of Land generally, and to the effect which the Seigniorial Tenure may produce upon the prosperity of the city of Montreal, as well as to the subjects of the Registry of Titles, and the future Incorporation of Land companies. Finally, that the constitution of the Executive and Legislative Council, and the state of the Representation of the people, are questions which it will be necessary to approach.

The scope of the commission is not confined to the subjects which I have enumerated, although, under the instructions from his Majesty's Government, they are considered to have the first claim to attention.

Having thus stated the course of inquiry contemplated by the commissioners, I am to add, that during its progress, it is probable they will remove their sittings to Montreal; and as they propose to make their report on the appropriation of the Crown Reserves before Christmas, I am to request that you will favour me with the earliest intimation you can conveniently afford, whether or not it is likely that any gentlemen from Montreal will wish to attend before that communication be dispatched.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient humble servant,
THO. FREDK. ELLIOT.

J. G. Scott, Esq., Montreal.

The executive committee have been very desirous of organizing Ward committees throughout the city and suburbs, the utility of which would be felt in the event of any emergency arising, requiring union and strength;—but they fear that their wishes have been but partially and imperfectly carried into effect; and this committee cannot refrain from recommending the immediate and general adoption of a system of organization.

Petitions, respectfully and numerous signed by the inhabitants of Montreal, have recently been transmitted, through the medium of the executive committee, and presented to the Provincial Parliament.

First—For the establishment of Registry Offices throughout the province.

Second—For the abolishment of the Feudal Tenure throughout the province.

Third—For the continuation of the improvement of the Harbour of Montreal.

Fourth—For the improvement of the canal navigation in this province, on a scale to correspond with that going forward in Upper Canada.

Measures have also been taken to procure an amendment of the act for incorporating the city of Montreal.

The executive committee cannot refrain from bringing under the notice of the association the infraction recently committed on the constitution of this province, by the executive branch thereof, in paying, without authority of law, and for purposes tending to the total subversion of that constitution, a large sum of money of the public Treasury. If one infraction of the law could justify another, they do not see why the payment of the duties by which the public Treasury is filled should not be withheld, to prevent the recurrence of such an act of public spoliation.

All which is, nevertheless, respectfully submitted.

By order of the Executive Committee,
W. Robertson, Vice-chairman.
J. Guthrie Scott, Secretary.

Montreal, Nov. 1835.

At a meeting of the General Committee, held on the 28th November, the following resolutions were carried:—

First—That a committee of three persons be appointed to audit the Treasurer's Accounts.

Second—That the present aspect of affairs in this province demands a closer union of persons of British and Irish origin for purposes of mutual defence and support; and that a committee of seven persons be now named to alter and amend the Rules and Regulations of this association, with the view of carrying into effect so important an object, and to report thereon at the next general meeting.

Third—That a committee of five be appointed to draw up a report of the general committee, to be laid before the association, and that it be an instruction to the said committee to point out such objects as it may consider of importance to bring under the consideration of the association.

In conformity with the last clause of this resolution, the committee have prepared, and respectfully submit to the consideration of the association, the following observations:—

The association cannot too frequently place before the public the principles and demands of the population of British and Irish descent, and contrast them with the acts and demands of the dominant party in the Assembly.

Constitutionalists demand ameliorations in the law, and changes in the institutions of the country, beneficial in their immediate effects, and valuable as elevating the condition of the French peasantry, and qualifying them for the exercise of the loftier duties of freemen.

The efforts of the French Canadian leaders, on the contrary, are limited to the preservation of their ancient institutions, and to a change in the constitution which cannot reasonably be expected, so long as

the existing form of government of the British empire shall be preserved.

The French leaders have obtained, with the unreflecting, a character for liberality by their demand that the Legislative Council should be elected by the people, instead of being, as at present, appointed by the Crown;—and the opposition of constitutionalists to this change, has given rise to much misrepresentation of their principles.

Any expression of opinion in regard to the superior adaptation to the wants and interests of society of the republican form of government, or that of a constitutional monarchy, is not required from the committee. Both forms of government have their advocates; each can be sustained by powerful arguments derived from history and from reason. But the committee believe that no educated man of unprejudiced mind, will hesitate to denounce the course pursued by the French Canadian leaders, who under the specious guise of Reformers, ostensibly desirous of a government more intimately connected with the will of the people, are really animated by zeal for the preservation of all those peculiarities which so unenviably distinguish this Province from all other inhabited portions of North America.

The most ardent admirers of self government will admit, that the qualification of a people for investiture with that important privilege, is a solemn consideration; and the Committee feel convinced they shall have no difficulty in repelling the charge which the duplicity of the French Canadian leaders induces them to reiterate, that the Association is 'factiously and unjustifiably' opposed to the introduction of the elective principle of Government in this Province. The Association numbers amid their ranks, many of the children of Republican America, who venerate the land of their birth, and are proud of her institutions. Enrolled in the Association is a large body of individuals who have contemplated society and the institutions of Government under a variety of forms, who witnessing the effect of despotism to degrade, and of freedom to elevate and ennoble, willingly join in the declaration that the source of power is in the people. But, who compose the Association? Are they not mainly Scotchmen, Irishmen, Englishmen, Germans, and the descendants of those from the British Isles, who sought the enjoyment of civil and religious liberty in America? And needs there any declaration that a body so composed, cannot deem an intelligent people unfit to exercise the privilege of self-government; and yet that charge has been made, and is reiterated by the leaders of the French party, who have the hardihood to proclaim themselves the exclusive champions of free institutions within this Province!

But whilst the Association record their conviction that the intelligence of a people is the guarantee for the proper use of the elective principle, they appeal to history, in particular to the progress of the Republics of South America, to the opinions of the most eminent and distinguished Republican writers, to bear them out in the assertion that, when a population is unlettered and unenlightened, to entrust them with the unrestricted use of political power would be in fact to retard the progress of rational freedom. To resist a state of things so repulsive to the feelings of freemen, the Association have banded themselves together,—they have caused their declarations to be made known to the British people,—they have received assurances from the Imperial Government that justice shall be impartially administered; and notwithstanding that recent circumstances have violently shaken their faith in the commissioned organs of the Ministry, they yet repose quietly in the confidence, that, though deprived by an adverse majority, glorying in their foreign origin, of that power and influence which they ought to exercise, their dearest privileges, and feeling, and interests, will not be committed to the keeping of a population, which, however moral and religious, are unfit to sustain their own just rights and interests, and are necessarily totally unqualified to be entrusted with the rights and interests of others. If, in the ordinary and varied relations of private life, we should contemptuously refuse the proposition to submit our differences to the arbitration of men ignorant of the rudiments of education, what language can we employ sufficiently indicative of our feelings, when the demand is boldly made that to such men shall be entrusted the management of our political liberties.

The right of suffrage, almost universal, has been conferred by the Constitution on the population of this Province, and although the Association do not desire the right to be curtailed, yet they appeal to the intelligent of all communities whether it would be proper and just to direct the

Constitution of a check on popular violence and precipitation where, unhappily ignorance and prejudice characterize the majority.

Although to those resident in this Province, and intimately acquainted with the condition of the rural population, it is supererogatory to adduce proofs of the deplored ignorance of the French Canadian inhabitants, yet our fellow-countrymen in the other American Provinces and in Great Britain and Ireland may desire that our assertion be substantiated.

The Committee disclaim all intention of charging upon the French Canadian population, a participation in the selfish acts of their leaders; and were it not that a disclosure of certain facts was necessary to a right understanding of the position of parties, they would willingly abstain from any allusion to their peculiar characteristics. The following quotation from an address to 'Men of British and Irish descent,' will convey, in precise terms, all that is necessary to be said on that subject:—

'The want of education among the French majority, and their consequent inability to form a correct judgment of the acts of their political leaders have engendered most of our grievances. The extent of that ignorance may be collected from the facts, that within the last two years, in each of two Grand Juries of the Court of King's Bench from the district of Montreal, selected under a Provincial Law, from among the wealthiest inhabitants of the rural parishes, there was found but one person competent to write his name; and that trustees of schools are specially permitted, by statute, to affix their crosses to their school reports.

'The political information of that part of the Canadian population engaged in agricultural pursuits is therefore derived exclusively from the few educated individuals scattered among them, who speak the same language and who possess the means of directing public opinion, exempted from those salutary checks which education alone can bestow.

'The persons who wield this mighty power are, generally speaking, Seigniors, Lawyers, and Notaries of French extraction, all of whom, as will be shown hereafter, have a direct and selfish interest in maintaining a system of Feudal Law, injurious to the country, and bearing with peculiar severity on the British interests.

'Our endeavors to procure relief have been represented as a covert attack upon the customs and institutions of the Province; national prejudices have been called into action, national feelings excited, and a majority, ignorant of the nature of the contest, is now arrayed against a British minority.

'Passing by the petty vexations of the Feudal tenure, such as the Seigniors right to call for the title deeds of every vassal; his exclusive right of grinding the grain of his Seigniori; his right to assume any property within his Seigniori on reimbursement to the purchaser the cost of his acquisition; and other claims of a servile arbitrary character incident to Feudal Law, we proceed to the subject of the more grievous burdens by which we are oppressed.

'Throughout the Seigniories of Lower Canada, within the limits of which are comprised the cities of Montreal and Quebec, upon the sale of real property the feudal lord exacts from the purchaser a fine equal to one-twelfth part of the price; a claim which recurs with each successive sale; thus every person who clears, or otherwise improves a farm, erects a building, either in town or country, or invests capital in landed estate, bestows one-twelfth of his outlay on the Seignior, whenever the property is brought to sale.

'This odious law, so injurious in its effects, readily explains why this fine province, although richly endowed by nature, is so far surpassed in the career of improvement by neighboring provinces and states.

'From the want of a bill for the registration of real property, the validity of a title cannot be ascertained except by a course of expensive proceedings through the Courts of Law, but secret incumbrances may still exist, unaffected by that procedure, for whose discovery no means are afforded; hence the difficulty of borrowing money on mortgage and the frequent seizure and forced sale of real estate.

'The profits which accrue to the seignior from this state of things are obvious; and the interest of the French Lawyer and notary, in maintaining a system of law that fosters litigation and produces corresponding expense, is equally intelligible.'

The first settlers in Canada brought with them the artificial distinctions of rank, and the oppressive laws of that state of society, which had grown up, in rank luxury, under the despotism of the Bourbons. The eradication of these laws, as it would

have been the first effort of a reforming legislature. Yet the French Canadian population still submit to their pernicious operation—the House of Assembly proclaims to the world a resolve for their perpetuation, and denounces the constitutionalists for seeking their abolition.

The committee cannot omit making reference to the notorious fact, that several members of the House of Assembly, in successive Parliaments, have been unable to read and write. In one state of Republican America, those similarly circumstanced, are disqualified for the comparative humble duty of a Petty Juror, while in this province, a virtual encouragement to the neglect of education, is offered, by rendering ignorance no impediment to the responsible and important duties of legislation. Can it be supposed that a people in this condition are competent to judge of the various and complicated relations of society—to decide upon the nicely graduated scale of punishments so necessary to a just system of law—to regulate the intricate concerns of commerce—and, finally, to comprehend the wants and the wishes of that portion of the community, which, from education and superior intelligence, is more advanced in the social scale.

When to this state of affairs is added the fact, that the pernicious distinction of origin has been sedulously employed to perpetuate a separation of the two classes—that feelings of enmity have been created and encouraged among the French population, against their fellow-citizens of British and Irish descent, the opposition of the association to the introduction of the elective principle in this province, will be regarded by all unprejudiced men, as dictated by self-preservation.

The association earnestly desire that the Legislative Council should be composed of men who, by birth or long residence in the country, are warmly attached to its interests, who are intimately concerned in its prosperity, who are alike independent in mind and circumstances, and distinguished by the esteem of their fellow-citizens. A legislative council formed of such materials will enjoy the confidence of the people, and be alike observant of duty towards the Crown, and of respect for popular privileges. Public opinion will sufficiently punish a dereliction from the one, or a disregard of the other.

To surrender the entire control of the government of the province to the present constituency, would be in effect, proportionally to increase and confirm the power of the French faction. The influence which has brought the French population not simply to endure, but to cherish pernicious laws, cannot be counteracted, until education and a free press shall have diffused among them the elements of political knowledge.

The British and Irish population perceive in the past conduct of the French leaders, sufficient evidence of what would be their future career. Confident of the continued support of a majority, inaccessible to argument, and united by an indefinite dread of every thing British, they have ventured upon acts that would have blighted their character in any enlightened state. They have violated the first principles of a Representative Government, by expelling from successive Parliaments a Member freely elected by the people;—another Member has been expelled upon the ground of alleged disqualification, while one of their own party, under similar circumstances, has been permitted to retain his seat;—and the sitting members for the West Ward of this city, are allowed to retain their seats in opposition to the votes of a majority of qualified electors.

The French Canadian leaders have numbered among their grievances, that one-seventh of the Township lands has been appropriated by law for the support of a Protestant clergy, and yet they have studiously withheld from public view the facts, that, for the support of the French clergy, is exclusively appropriated the revenue derived from the exaction of tithes in the Seigneuries, and that large revenues from extensive tracts of land are enjoyed by French communities. Are duplicity and exclusiveness the characteristics of Reformers?

The men of the Constitutional Association are united for one grand object—the maintenance of equal rights. Upholding the principle, that every citizen should derive the means of support from his congregation, they cordially accede to the application of the Cergy Reserves to purposes of education; but they claim what their political opponents have intentionally overlooked, a general adoption of that principle.

Although years have elapsed since the British Government, after strict investigation, declared that certain properties were held by communities without any legal title, yet a large population, comprehending that of the principle cities of the province, remain subjected to grievous and irritating feudal exactions by these communities; the growth of our cities is checked, by the interposition of parcels of land held in mortmain, and which are refused, for purposes of public improvement, to earnest applications. Those evils might well have found enumeration among the numerous grievances which a microscopic vision has detected, and would have commanded the attention of a Reforming Legislature.

The association have no sinister motives;—in the true and stern spirit of reform, they demand that these oppressions cease. They protest in the name of their fellow-countrymen, against any compromise or concession that shall confer the sanction of his Majesty's Government on the illegal

exactions which a weak policy has suffered to exist.

Our fellow-subjects in Upper Canada demanded the modification of the King's college at Toronto, because of its exclusiveness, and yet their brethren in Lower Canada have, of late years, witnessed the establishment, by Provincial charter, of several French colleges of the most exclusive character, deriving their support principally from the public revenue, by annual grants freely and lavishly bestowed by successive Parliaments. In their anxiety for the advancement of education, the constitutionalists have hitherto uttered no complaint, but, goaded by a sense of wrongs inflicted by the French majority, they now formally protest against the support of colleges founded on narrow and exclusive principles, which necessarily deprive a large portion of the population of the advantages of those institutions, and demand a general system of education, divested of sectional and illiberal views.

The numerous French colleges, supported chiefly by grants from the public funds, warrant the association in demanding, as an act of justice, proportionate grants for the instruction of youth of British and Irish origin; and further they conceive that the Jesuits' Estates and Colleges at Quebec should be dedicated to the establishment of an institution for the higher branch of science and learning, open to all classes, and divested of all sectarian religious tests in either its professors or its students.

The proceedings of the Assembly, now in session, evince the usual spirit of hostility any beneficial change in the laws affecting property, and the prosecution of works of public utility, which are imperatively called for, to enable us to compete successfully with our rivals for the Western trade. Serious and wounding to our interests as are the obstacles which a narrow-minded and hateful policy interposes to prevent the march of public prosperity, the association more deeply regrets that no hope of speedy amelioration can be discerned, except through the interposition of the Imperial Parliament, or from a legislative union of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada. However, another resource is yet afforded to those associations resident in the county of Montreal—namely, an annexation to Upper Canada, which would free them from a connexion repulsive to their feelings, and destructive of their interests.

The provincial revenue, mainly furnished by the British and Irish population of this province and of Upper Canada, has been in part, illegally applied to reward political partisans—to engage the services of an agent, who advocates principles destructive of an important branch of our trade—to disseminate false and libellous attacks on our principles and motives through the British press, and to sustain Journals in this province. Sincerely does the association deplore that the Governor in Chief, in obedience to instructions from his Majesty's Ministers, should have sanctioned an unconstitutional application of the provincial funds: painful and irritating as would under any circumstances, have been this infraction of the constitution, yet more acutely felt is the wrong, proceeding from those who we confidently expected, would have interposed the shield of British justice for the protection of that structure reared by the Imperial Parliament itself.

The constitutional party in this province are resolved to devote their energies to the preservation of the fundamental principles of the existing constitution—not merely because of its assimilation to the constitution of the United Kingdom, but merely because the change so ardently and pertinaciously demanded by the House of Assembly will, if effected, speedily, sever the connexion with the parent State, a connexion which this committee maintains is beneficial to the colony, and affectionately appreciated by the bulk of the association,—not merely because the lamented ignorance of the French Canadian peasantry presents an insurmountable objection to a further extension of the elective principle,—but chiefly because the change demanded by the House of Assembly would entail upon them and upon their children, a virtual deprivation of the elective franchise, an insupportable condition of moral servitude.

The dishonest imputation of the French Canadian leaders, that the association is composed of anti-reformers and supporters of official abuses, has been for ever put at rest by a distinct and open avowal of their principles, and the true character of the struggle as between feudalism and rational liberty,—domination and equal rights,—French Canadian nationality and the spirit of universal liberty, as known and appreciated throughout North America.

The peculiar position of the men of British and Irish origin, though surrounded by difficulties, must not give rise to despondency. A confident reliance upon the justice of their cause, and the energies of the race to which they belong, must animate them to resistance against oppression, and will yet crown their efforts with success. But, watchfulness and action are required, and a more intimate connexion with their brethren throughout this province and in Upper Canada: to effect which important object, they earnestly recommend that delegates from all the constitutional Societies in this province, assemble in Congress, to deliberate upon our situation, and to devise the best and speediest means of political emancipation; and considering the identity of interests between the inhabitants of Upper Canada and the constitutionalists of this province, that urgent representations be made to them, by means of deputies or otherwise, for that aid which will ac-

celerate the overthrow of a hateful domination.

All which is nevertheless respectfully submitted,

H. DYER.

Chairman, General Committee.
Montreal, December 5, 1835.

The following resolutions were adopted by the Meeting:—

Moved by Adam Ferrie, seconded by Jas Brown—

1. Resolved—That the Report now read be received and adopted by this Association.

Moved by John Boston, seconded by H. Corse—

2. Resolved—That the report of the committee appointed at the meeting of the General committee held on the 29th November last, for the purpose of altering and amending the Rules and Regulations of this association, as now read, be received and adopted.

Moved by T. A. Begley, seconded by John Jones—

3. Resolved—That this association do now proceed, in conformity to the Rules and Regulations, to the election of a general committee for the ensuing year.

William Ritchie, Joseph Ross, John Platt, Stoney Bellingham, John Sexton, George Weatheritt, T. A. Starke, Samuel Snedden, John E. Mills, Noah Shaw, John Mack, Alexander Murphy, T. Lindsay, Lawrence Kidd, Benjamin Holmes, A. Hume, Wm. Dow, Charles Mittelberger, J. C. Gundlack, Hugh Brodie, J. R. Bronsdon, C. E. Wentele, T. B. Anderson, Alexander Miller, Joseph Clarke, James Spiers, P. E. Leclerc, Roger McGill, John Quigly, Thomas McGrath, John Thornton, H. Meyer, James McCabe, Francis Mullins, William Donegan, Abner Bagge, Thomas Phillips, J. H. Lamb, D. Cotterell, Gabriel Roy, R. J. Begley, James Gainer, James Robertson, J. Fraser, Christian Wurtele, Dr. Stephenson, J. McGowan, W. Lawley, J. Redpath, T. B. English, A. Wand, W. Manual, C. Penner, Frederick Griffin, James Poot, Henry Griffin, Charles Try, Adam Ferrie, Andrew Doyle, John Glenon, Hon. Peter MacGill, William Walker, Joseph Shuter, Charles D. Day, Francis Hunter, Henry Corse, Stanley Bagge, John Donnellan, Robert Morris, John Torrance, Andrew Cowan, Harrison Jewel, Edward S. Maitland, J. Holmes, J. Bassford, N. Doherty, Doctor Arnoldi, sen., Benjamin Hall, John Mathewson, Wm. Watson, Wm. Logan, Capt. Dyer, Emery Cushing, J. D. Gibb, J. M. Tobin, Turtin Penn, Michael O'Meara, P. N. Rossiter, J. H. Dorwin, Geo. Gray, F. R. Forbes, James Young, Robert Arnott, sen., Tevil Appleton, J. Whitlaw, Wm. Ludlam, James Fraser, R. Howard, T. A. Begley, Samuel Gerrard, John Jones, sen., George Auldjo, James C. Grant, N. P. M. Kurczyn, Walter Benny, P. Rutherford, J. Jackson, John Molson, jun., G. Phillips, Charles F. Greece, P. Seyhold, Frederick Nentz, B. Berthelet, M. D. — Shrimpton, S. G. Albeck, Campbell Sweeny, Hubert Sentienne, Louis Du Chantelle, Archd. Oeuvre, Benjam in Hart, Malcom Leishman, James Quinlan, John Jones, Hon. G. Moffatt, T. B. Wragg, William Yule, J. M. Griffiths, George Hall, John Maybill, Dr. Robertson, John Boston, Richard Robinson, John S. McCord, William Lunn, Wm. Lyman, Wm. Spier, John Clarke, Andrew White, J. T. Barrett, Edward Cheney, James Somerville, A. Idler, Wm. Stephens, Ebenezer Muir, James Fisher, W. Edmonstone, James G. Scott, James Henderson, John Dodds, John G. Smidts, Wm. Cunningham, John Riddle.

Moved by J. Holmes, seconded by J. Shrimpton:

4. Resolved,—That the threatening aspect of public affairs in this province leaves the enlightened and independent, of whatever origin, among the population, no alternative between vigorous action and humble submission, and as the latter is not to be thought of, that means to ensure a greater efficiency of action be taken, and that it be an instruction to the executive committee to adopt such measures as they may deem fit, for the assembling in Congress, at some central point, deputies from the various constitutional societies in this province, and from our fellow subjects in the sister colonies.

Moved by G. Auldjo, seconded by J. P. Sexton:

5. Resolved,—That the assumption by Louis Joseph Papineau of the character of a representative of the West Ward of the city of Montreal in the present Provincial Parliament, is contrary to the law of this land; and is a gross violation of the rights of the Electors of that Ward; and that such assumption is the more strongly to be denounced as proceeding from an individual whose avowed principles are directly hostile to the political and commercial interests of his Majesty's subjects in this province of British and Irish origin, and dangerous to the peace and prosperity, not only of Lower Canada—but of all the British possessions in North America.

Moved by H. Griffin, seconded by John Molson, Junr.:

6. Resolved,—That this association view with surprise the manifest opposition by the popular branch of the Legislature of this province, against every advance made by individuals calculated to the improvement of the province, and particularly of the district of Montreal. In the present session, we have already witnessed the extraordinary inconsistency of the speaker and his followers, exercised expressly to defeat the Railroad applications for this District, by which a barrier is intentionally erected to the employment of emigrants, forcing them

to the necessity of seeking a home elsewhere, and whereby these provinces would mainly be enabled to compete with the rapid strides making by our neighbors, which ere long (unless counteracted by the march of improvement on our part) must prove ruinous to ourselves individually, and to our rising commercial interest.

From the Montreal Herald.

ANTI-GALLIC LETTERS.

[SECOND SERIES.]

No. II.

To the English Inhabitants of British America.

Montreal, 22d Dec., 1835.

FELLOW-COUNTRYMEN,

In my last letter, I urged on your notice the equally important and notorious fact, that the French prejudices of the dominant faction of Lower Canada had at last transformed the political differences of that province into a national conflict. This, my countrymen, is a text, which I cannot too often repeat, which I cannot too fully illustrate, which I cannot too strenuously enforce.

I do not mean, that there exists no political ground of distinction between the French demagogues and their English victims; but I do mean, that the political opinions of those demagogues evince an indifference, if not contempt, even for the few Englishmen among their own partisans.

The French leaders, my countrymen, clamour for the extension of the elective principle to all the departments of the government, not because they are friends of popular liberty, but because they desire to see all political power in the hands of a French majority of illiterate dupes. They clamour, my countrymen, against the British American Land Company, not because they are the conscientious enemies of monopoly, but because they long to monopolize the waste lands of the crown for the exclusive benefit of *La Grande Nation Canadienne*. They clamour, my countrymen, for the repeal of the 'Tenures Act,' which limited the oppressions of the feudal system to the seigniories, not because they are really insane enough to prefer the servile tenure to the free, but because they know that the universality of feudal exactions would tend to deter free born Englishmen from settling in Lower Canada. They clamour, my countrymen, against the establishment of register offices, not because they are wicked enough to avow a disregard for the security of property, but because, as they have publicly confessed, they consider the establishment of register offices as a lever for ejecting their 'indolent' compatriots to make room for the industrious Britons. They clamour, my countrymen, against a civil list, not because they, while they squander thousands on themselves and their hirelings, can possibly wish to save the public money, but because they avowedly hope to extort the concession of every demand from an embarrassed and persecuted government.—Mr. Papineau having recently acknowledged in the self-constituted Assembly, that he had, in convention, strenuously urged the propriety of not holding a single session, till the extension of the elective principle should be conceded. They clamour, my countrymen, against commerce, not because they are so silly as to reckon Lower Canada independent of other countries for the comforts of life, but because they clearly understand, that commerce is the magnet which attracts the hateful swarms of British and Irish adventurers, and the ultimatum which sustains the justly dreaded constitutionalists of Montreal. The French demagogues, in their crusade against commerce, have attempted to ruin the chartered banks of this city, have postponed the indispensable improvements of Montreal Harbour, have never attempted to deepen the shallows of St. Peter's Lake, and have listlessly permitted Upper Canada to carry on a gigantic plan of internal improvement which, if not continued by Lower Canada, must be useless. The French demagogues, my countrymen, have rejected any and every bill, that has been proposed during the present session for uniting Montreal more closely to Upper Canada and the Eastern Townships.

These views, my countrymen, are undeniably correct; and, if so, they clearly prove, that the struggle in Lower Canada is not political but national. Let me, therefore, earnestly implore you, my countrymen, to view the struggle in the light, in which the Gallic democrats have placed it, and, without a thought of your own political differences, to unite as one man with your disfranchised brethren of French America in defence at once of their rights, and of your own interests. Are you prepared to submit to the establishment of an Anti-British wall of partition in the heart of British America? Is Upper Canada in particular, ready to sink tamely under the cold grasp of an anti-commercial faction? Is she prepared to throw five hundred thousand pounds into the St. Lawrence canal, as she must do in the event of Mr. Papineau's complete success? Is she disposed to have her young energies forever cramped by French sluggards, her revenue for ever plundered by French cormorants, her British and Irish recruits taxed, insulted and oppressed in a land won by their fathers? No, my fellow countrymen of Upper Canada; our cause is also yours; our triumph is your safety; our defeat is your ruin.—But why do I talk of defeat, as if defeat were possible? Is it not a law of nature, to the truth of which the land and water, the east and the west, the fame of our fathers & the glory of the

present age bear ample & continuous testimony, that Englishmen cannot, will not, must not be the conquered slaves of Frenchmen—Conquered, do I say? Shame on the imperial cabinet, eternal infamy to ourselves, perpetual bondage to our children, if on a soil, where we are not conquered but conquerors, we tamely consent to be the slaves of French-Canadian traitors, who are the degenerate objects of contempt and scorn even to every genuine native of France.

By the spirit of your race, by the sacred names of Cressy, Trafalgar and Quebec, by the ties of consanguinity and by a regard to your own dearest interests, I entreat you, my brethren, to be up and doing, to remonstrate with the imperial authorities, and to send delegates from every township to the approaching Congress, which, with the exception of physical force, remains the only refuge of constitutional freedom, the only guardian of British connexion.

I have the honor to be,
Friends and countrymen,
Your most faithful and devoted servant,
CAMILLUS.

From the New Yorker. 18 Dec.

AWFUL CONFLAGRATION.

Our city has just been the theatre and the victim of the most disastrous visitation ever known to this continent! The heart of her business, her commerce, and her wealth is now a blackened mass of smouldering ruins! New York has received a blow, from the effects of which the utmost exertion of her fearless enterprise, the most liberal and beneficent application of her yet unbounded wealth, will hardly suffice to restore her. The homes of her 'merchant-princes' are desolate—the citadels of their strength are in ashes!

The appalling conflagration, which it is our melancholy duty to record, commenced at 9 o'clock on Wednesday evening—at which time the flames burst forth from the store of Comstock & Andrews, 25 Merchant street, near the Exchange. In twenty minutes, the whole block of wholesale stores, in the very centre of the mercantile business of the city, was in a blaze, and the destroying element was rapidly extending its ravages in every direction. It would be vain to attempt giving the distant reader an idea of the spectacle presented. The weather had been unusually severe for several days; but on the night in question the cold had increased to an intensity which has seldom been exceeded. The thermometer stood below zero; with a breeze from the N. W. amounting nearly to a gale; and the fire had obtained a tremendous advantage in the most compactly and loftily built portion of the city, filled with silks, cloths, liquors, and other combustibles, and intersected only by narrow streets which could interpose no barrier to the progress of the flames. The rally of the Fire Department was not made with its accustomed alacrity, owing to the unparalleled severity of the weather, and to the fact that there had been so many alarms within the week, and so large an amount of harassing service required of the firemen.

The effort to check the ravages of the conflagration in the quarter to which the wind was vehemently urging it proved utterly unavailing. The water so plentifully thrown upon it by hydrants and engines was blown back in the faces and fell congealed at the feet of the firemen, or seemed only to add to the fury of the element. William street was passed—Pearl street overleaped—next Water street—then Front—and the very shipping in the docks of the East River was endangered, and only saved by strenuous exertions, and its removal into the stream. No barrier but that of Nature could be interposed on the East; and it was with great difficulty that the fire could be prevented from extending its ravages across Wall street. The Tontine building (Hudson's News-Room) was indeed once on fire, but happily extinguished. The extraordinary strength of the Wall street buildings—many of them resisting firmly the assaults of the destroyer, and none of the walls crumbling and falling into the street, as is too generally the case—did more for the safety of those north of the street than any thing within the power of human effort. For hours, it was doubtful that the flames could be arrested here—and if not, there was little hope that they could before reaching Maiden lane!

Onward—still onward, swept the besom of destruction! The hydrants were exhausted—the engines had long been frozen up, with their hose like cannon. Westward, the South Dutch church, which had been made the hasty depository of stores of precious goods, was in flames, which threatened to extend to Broad street throughout. On the South, a desperate struggle was made at Hanover square, but it was unsuccessful. How could such an avalanche of fire be checked, when water could not be thrown upon it, and seemed of no avail when it was? A last resort was had to gunpowder—but none, in sufficient quantities, was to be procured in the city—not being allowed as an article of merchandise. An application to the Fort on Governor's Island was unsuccessful; but a supply was ultimately procured after daylight from the Navy-Yard, Brooklyn, with corps of marines, &c., and the demolition of a few buildings contributed materially to the subjugation of the flames, which was finally effected at Coenties-slip, about noon of this day (Thursday) after an awful and uninterrupted devastation of fifteen hours.

It will be readily understood that the destruction is not even yet complete. As we write, twenty five hours after the first alarm of the fire, a dark cloud of smoke rises over the vast scene of ruin, revealed, at the dis-

tance of a mile and with a considerable elevation intervening, by the lurid flames which still flicker and glow at its base. They may not be extinct for weeks; but the limits of their desolation are, we trust, distinctly defined. And yet the possibility of a gale from the South or even the South-West cannot at this moment be contemplated without a shudder. Had the wind which prevailed on the night of calamity reached us from a Southerly or even Easterly direction, we believe half the city must have sunk beneath the overwhelming devastation.

We shall not attempt to give a statement of individual losses; a bare catalogue of the sufferers would fill a column. *Seventeen* of the most valuable blocks of buildings in New York are totally destroyed, and three others nearly so. The Merchant's Exchange is destroyed, including the Post-Office. *Six hundred and seventy* buildings have been burnt, principally occupied as importing and wholesale stores, many of them by such firms as Arthur Tappan & Co., Bailey, Keeler & Remsen, &c. &c. with a stock of goods, even at this season, of three hundred thousand dollars each.—The south side of Wall street is half destroyed; William, Pearl, Water, Front and South streets, from Wall street to Coenties-slip, are in ruins; Exchange place, Hanover-st. Merchant-st. and Hanover-square, entirely destroyed; Stone street from Pearl to Broad street nearly so. Some of the buildings on Broad street were slightly injured; but throughout the night this noble avenue was universally regarded as the only efficient barrier against the entire destruction of the First Ward.

Of the six large morning papers, only two escaped the general wreck—the *Mercantile* and the *Courier & Enquirer*. The *Daily Advertiser*, *Journal of Commerce*, and *Gazette*, were burnt out of both printing and publication offices; the *Times* of printing office only. The American among the evening papers, is entirely destroyed.—All Mr. Minor's periodicals—*Rail-Road Journal*, *Mechanics Magazine*, &c. &c. are included in the wreck. The printers of the *Knickerbocker* also which will probably delay the publication of the next number. The other periodicals of the city were mainly exempted from immediate suffering.

We cannot pretend to give an estimate of the total loss sustained by this dreadful calamity. *Fifteen millions of dollars* seems the average of current opinions, but we esteem it decidedly too low. The Insurance companies are generally ruined—some will not pay fifty per cent. There is, however, a considerable amount insured in Boston and other cities.

Every measure has been taken to alleviate the pressure of this afflictive dispensation. A meeting of the common council was immediately held—several apartments in the city hall appropriated to the use of the merchants and other sufferers—the watch doubled—and a volunteer guard of one thousand citizens called out for the protection of the city—the firemen being completely exhausted, incendiaries and plunderers still plentiful in every street, their appetite sharpened by success—and city insurance being no longer worth any thing. Our citizens must continue to exercise the sternest vigilance. A general meeting will be held in the superior court room, city hall, at 12 o'clock this day.

The loss of human life has been great—but we can give no account of it. There is little doubt that the devastation is the work of an incendiary; and it is said that a demon was caught applying a lighted torch to buildings after daylight of Thursday morning! Seventy thieves were committed yesterday.

For the Missiskoui Standard. EASTERN TOWNSHIPS.

That portion of the province of Lower Canada called the Eastern Townships was unknown to the civilized world until the year 1763, when a party was sent out by order of Gov. Haldimand to explore the country east, and south-east of the St. Lawrence. The favourable account given by those individuals of the situation of the country, the fertility of its soil, the salubrity of its climate, its facility to the markets of Quebec and Montreal, together with its resources and well formed mill sites, induced a number of individuals to take up their abode in the trackless wilderness. The first settlement was made in the fall of 1761 by a corps of Loyal Rangers, who obtained their lands under the title of an Indian grant, which however, proved fallacious, and they afterwards purchased of the Hon. Thomas Dunan at the reduced price of two shillings per acre.

The names of those who settled in 1761 are Adam Deal, Harmonas Best, Lewis Streit, Christjohn Wehr, Christjohn Hawver, Alexander Taylor, John Ruiter, Koonrod Best, John Sax, Abram Hyatt, Gilbert Hyatt, Jacob Bar, Philip Luke, John Mack, James Anderson, Joseph Smith, Frederick Hayner.

Of these 18 in number, one only remains to tell the story of suffering and privation which they were doomed to undergo in settling a new country, and from that individual the writer of this article obtained the history of the first settlement which he now gives to the public.

It is useless for the writer to enter into a detail of the hardships attendant on settling this country, every man who has any knowledge of a country in a state of nature, can easily imagine that the difficulties to be surmounted are not small, neither are the hardships which they undergo trifling, no foreign article could be purchased short of St. Johns, a distance of sixty miles by water and twenty-two by land, with nothing but naked trees for their guide. The most convenient mill was built in 1783 upon Onion river, at the place now called Burlington, therefore they were under the necessity of passing through the most dangerous part of Lake Champlain in an open boat, a

distance of 50 miles to obtain food for their families.

It would readily be supposed that when such obstacles are to be surmounted, little progress would be made in settling the country, yet here we find the reverse, the forest was made to resound with the woodsmen's axe, and that place which had for ages been the haunt of wild beasts, became cultivated corn fields and the abode of men. The fact that in half a century, the face of the country has undergone such a visible change, proves to a demonstration, that it offers good encouragement to industry.

The village of Philipsburg where the settlement of the Townships first commenced, is situated on Missiskoui Bay, in the county of Missiskoui, this village contains forty dwelling houses, fifteen mechanical shops, five merchant stores, one excellent house of entertainment, and two schools, which have been taught very successfully by the same teachers for several years, give a convincing proof that they are not insensible of their duties toward their offspring.

The distance from Philipsburg to Lake Memphremagog is 50 miles, the road passes through the Seignior of St. Armand, the Townships of Dunham, Broome, and Boulton, and a more beautiful country the eye never beheld, the lofty hills the numerous rivulets, and their highly cultivated farms show that idleness is a stranger to this happy people.

N. D.

Philisburg, December, 1835.

MISSISKOU STANDARD.

FRELIGHSBURG, DEC. 29, 1835.

We 'cheerfully' respond to our brother of the *Advocate*:

"The constitutional reformers of the Eastern Townships, in justice to themselves—in justice to their brethren in all other parts of the province, and in justice to their brethren in Upper Canada, who are pledging themselves to stand by us in sustaining our rights—should let their voice be heard in remonstrance and their determination not to submit to tyranny, be distinctly known."

Let no one be backward. There is now no help. Equal rights or slavery to Frenchmen. Which will the Townships choose? Shall we go forward, in the words of the Montreal declaration, 'in the true and stern spirit of reform, and demand that our oppressions cease,' or shall we basely bow our necks to the yoke of an usurper? Let the Townships say, for now is the time, shall we yield up the 'Tenures Act,' and adopt the detested feudal system; shall we yield up our Register offices, and again become the victims of dishonest fraud; shall we declare that the blessings of emigration from England, are hateful to us, and support the French in endeavoring to overturn the Land company; shall we rivet our already chafing chains, by an elective council, or shall we make one bold stand, with our brethren of the cities, with our brethren of Upper Canada, with our brethren of the empire, and shake off a hateful tyrant and his Gothic tail?

Is there an intelligent man, in the Townships, who will attentively peruse the proceedings of the Montreal constitutional Association, and say, that the objects at which constitutionalists aim, are not those which are for the Townships' benefit? We cannot too ardently implore every man to read attentively the Report. The minds of Canadians, of every origin, must be made up to take one side or the other, in the present struggle, and we think that no man of intelligence can peruse the Report without joining with us.

The Townships have, from their earliest settlement, been the object of inveterate hatred to the French leaders. The titles by which we hold our lands, have ever been denounced by them. The proclamation of the King has been declared invalid; the grants made on that proclamation, have been denounced as illegal; the Tenures Act itself, it has been asserted, is nugatory; and French impudence and French chicanery has been so bold, that the French leaders repeatedly have declared, that no titles granted by the King of Britain, are of any strength. Our very name is hateful to them; and their leader dared to say, on the floor of the Assembly, that 'the inhabitants of the Townships had abandoned the land of their birth, and were ready to sell that of their adoption for dollars.'

But the time has at length arrived, when the Townships can vindicate their love of country, and throw off for ever the detested yoke, which Frenchmen have imposed on us, and which Lord Gosford has sanctioned. In the congress of the Association stands our only hope. We have borne insult, we have suffered oppression; we have been made the victims of spoliation, and the mockery of 'precise instructions'; we have seen the sacred language of our fathers proscribed, and as a nation we have been held up to reproach; our ardour for liberty, has been voted 'illiberal Orangeism,' and inhabiting the borders of a republic we have seen ourselves reduced to a bondage inexpressibly hateful. Shall such things

be, and not a tongue raised in remonstrance? shall the iron chains of servitude be forging around us, and not an arm raised to strike for freedom?

The Associations have already sounded the tocsin; let every man, who values the enjoyment of liberty for himself, or hopes for that of a future generation, rally round the standard of the constitution. This is not rebellion, it is self preservation. Since Lord Gosford yielded up our property to the rapacity of the French demagogues, the 'Englishman's house' has ceased to be 'his castle.' We have by violence been placed beyond the protection of the constitution, shall we scruple to use violence, if necessary, to regain our place? The dreadful alternative has not yet been forced upon us, and we hope, that the recal of Lord Gosford may speedily take place, in order to pave the way for a peaceable adjustment of our demands.

But in any case, LET US UP AND BE DOING; let delegates be appointed from every association, if necessary, from every Township. The more early we shew, that we are prepared to resist, the less prospect is there, that resistance will be required.

The St. Francis Branch Constitutional Association have held a meeting at which it was resolved 'That we scorn from our ranks all who have not made up their minds deliberately and coolly to act according to their professions and that we wish to hold no communion with men who *fatten under the British Constitution and are ready to sell it for dollars.*'

Thomas Steel Esq. was appointed delegate to the approaching Congress.

We are proud of the spirit shewn in our neighboring Townships. They have taken the lead in the naming of delegates. Mr. Steel has the honor to be the first appointed delegate. Let not the example be lost. Our all is at stake, the congress must be convoked immediately.

The Associations of Quebec and Montreal should appoint deputies to fix the day and place. All the other Associations will concur.

The precious time which should see us in action is passing in inactivity.

The 'British Rifle Corps,' of Montreal, have addressed a memorial to the Governor-in-Chief, praying him to sanction their organization, and stating that their sole aim is to preserve the connexion between the Mother country and the colony, and to protect the constitutional rights of British subjects.

A correspondent in the *Ami du Peuple*, gives a humorous account of a battle between Dr. O'Callaghan and a dog. The Dr. had forced himself into the Quebec 'Hibernian Society,' and the members applied against his admission an *argumentum ad hominem a posteriori* so powerfully, as to send the Dr. to the bottom of the stairs. A trusty dog fell in with him there, and not being able to distinguish the Dr.'s species, from the odd position in which he found him, commenced an attack. The dog had torn the outward habiliments of the Dr., and was proceeding to tear the Dr.'s ugly body, before he could be called off. Dogs hate renegades.

We would recommend to some loyal member of the faculty, to see, that the dog has received no bites from the Dr., lest the trusty animal should be afterwards seized with hydrophobia.

We beg to congratulate our brother of the *Farmers' Advocate* on his victory over the revolutionary St. Francis Courier.

When the true aims of the French party come to be plainly understood in the Townships, we are certain, that a revolutionary paper cannot be supported here, nay, that it cannot even be circulated. It is a notorious fact, that the revolutionary papers are in the pay of the House of Assembly. The money, raised from the hard working inhabitants of the colony, is abstracted from the public chest, to support newspapers which disseminate sedition. Will it be believed that every honest man, every friend of order, pays a portion of his gains, to enable such vulgar prints as the late St. Francis Courier, to continue in existence.

His Excellency's 'cheerful' grant of the people's money to the House of Assembly, puts it in the power of the perjured traitor Papineau and his tail, to pay the expenses of printing establishments, which otherwise would fall to decay. The House has withdrawn its protection from the St. Francis Courier, and the St. Francis Courier therefore is dead.

We are glad to learn, by the St. Catherine's Journal, that the Farmers in Upper

Canada have so good prospects; they can well afford to let a few emigrants come our way. The settlement of the Eastern Townships of L. C., is an object of the first political importance. The St. Catherine's Journal and its brethren of the Upper province must not therefore blame us, if we take all legitimate means to make the Townships known, and visited by emigrants. We would give his article, but are crowded for room, in consequence of the present alarming aspect of our political affairs.

In the *Montreal Report*, there are several things, with which we disagree; but we waive discussion for the present.

We have received No. 9 of the *Albion* of Upper Canada. 'We cheerfully' hail our new brother, and heartily wish him success. The columns of the *Albion* of U. C., like those of its namesake of New York, are chiefly devoted to the *Belles Lettres*.

If he be anxious,—and he says he is,—to avoid editorial quarrels, he hope that he will revise all such sentences, as the third one of No. 9, under the caption '*Lower Canada.*'

The thaw of Friday and Saturday has laid bare the hills in the vicinity of the village. The roads in some parts are bare. From St. Albans to Highgate, Vt., wheels are necessary.

The road, on the ice, from Laprairie, to Montreal, is now good.

Last Monday seems to have been a proud day for the British inhabitants of Montreal. On that day was held at Tattersall's, and attended in immense numbers, the annual meeting of the Montreal constitutional society, to receive the report of the committee relative to the transactions of the agent in London, and on other important matters. The limits of our small sheet utterly prohibit our giving even an outline of what was said and done at this meeting. Our readers, for information on that head are referred to the Montreal papers; but the letter of the secretary of the commissioners to the secretary of the society, is so communicative of the intentions of those important personages, that we have contrived to make room for it. A good deal of language was made use of at this meeting, which our *Whig* education would call treasonable; but which nevertheless may be justified by existing circumstances. No Briton, be he *Whig*, *Tory* or *Radical*, can bear to be trampled on by Frenchmen, in the land conquered by his forefathers!...*Kingston Whig*. U. C.

The Members of the House of Assembly having slipped their hands into the pockets of the public, now begin accidentally to slip their hands into the pockets of each other. The old proverb of 'honor among thieves,' blushes.

Mr. Jacob Dewitt, M. P. P., has been robbed of a parcel of bank notes, to the amount of fifty pounds. He fortunately hung his coat up in the wardrobe, some other member most likely in a mistake, slipped his hand into the pockets of it.—*Montreal Herald*.

While my Lord Gosford has advanced to the House of Assembly their contingencies, and the worthy members are enjoying all the comforts of good lodgings and comfortable, well-warmed apartments, there are twenty to twenty-five prisoners in our common gaol, destitute of clothing and bedding, and no funds advanced to protect them from actual starvation during this present inclement season. These are contingencies which cannot be 'cheerfully' granted. The late Governor-in-Chief took it upon himself occasionally to advance the public monies when the call of humanity required such an act;—he relieved the sufferings of those who ran the risk of starvation from a loss of their crops. Time must shew whether Lord Dalhousie and Lord Aylmer's humane and liberal conduct, in advancing often from their own resources, when funds were inadequate, is to be the only examples of benevolent sentiments entertained by the Governors-in-Chief of Lower Canada.—*Mont. Gaz.*

LIST OF LETTERS.

LETTERS FOR Sr. ARMAND.

Mary Ann Page 2,	William Callender,
Seneca Page,	Joseph Fortin,
Eli Hawley Esq.	John Fox,
Wm. Hickok,	Mrs. Phebe Minkler,
Mrs. Mary M. Reynolds,	Mr. Isaac Smith,
Mr. George Hawk,	Mrs. Catey Knights,
Robert S. Fleming 2	Leonard Kile,
George Barnes,	Asa Tisdale,

MARRIED,

On the 27th inst., by the Rev. Mr. Tompkins, Mr. Nathaniel G. Chadsey, to Miss Caroline F. Dunning, both of St. Armand.

At Odelltown, by the Rev. James Booth, Mr. Lockwood Allison, to Miss Esther Harper.

At do. by the Rev. James Booth, Mr. John Eldridge, to Miss Mary Allison.

At Foucault, (C. Manor), on the 22d inst., by the Rev. M. Townsend, Mr. Wm. Derrick, of Noyan, (Christie's Manor,) to Miss Electa Hawley, of the former place.

At Noyan, by the Rev. M. Townsend, Mr. Geo. Hyslop, to Miss Emily Derrick, both of Noyan.

In Sutton, on the 19th instant, by the Rev. Mr. Holmes, Mr. Simeon Courser, to Mrs. Betsey Morgan, both of Sutton.

DIED,

At 4th Concession, C. Manor, on the 21st inst. Hiram, infant son of Mr. Wm. Keet, aged 18 months.

SAW-MILL FOR SALE.

TO be sold, a Saw Mill, near Cooksville, in excellent repair, with twenty five acres of land attached, if required. Apply to MRS. JANE COOK, Cooksville, St. Armand, 26th Dec. 1835. 38tf

CEDAR RAILS.

WANTED 2000 Cedar Rails, to be delivered upon the West end of Lot No. 10 7th range, Dunham. Also, 50 Cedar POSTS to be delivered upon the premises of the undersigned in the village of Frelighsburg. J. CHAMBERLIN.

TEMPERANCE NOTICE.

THE Quarterly meeting of the Frelighsburg Temperance Society will be held at the Brick School House in this village, on Thursday the 7th day of JANUARY next. By order of the President. S. P. LALANNE, Secretary. Frelighsburg, Dec. 22, 1835. 37 2w.

THE subscriber will pay seven pence half penny, in money, for good house ashes. J. J. J. HAWK. St. Armand, Dec. 22, 1835. 37—8w.

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the estate of the late David Toof of St. Armand, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment, and those having demands against the estate are requested to present them to the undersigned, Executors, for payment, on or before the first day of January next.

REBECCA TOOF, } Executors.
EBENEZER M. TOOF, }
St. Armand, Dec. 15, 1835.

FOR SALE,

100 ACRES of excellent LAND, in the Township of Sutton, being the north half of lot No. 14, in the first range of lots in said Township, with a good road passing through it. said land is well watered and well timbered, and will be sold cheap for cash. For particulars enquire of the subscriber.

JOHN GIBSON. Sutton, Dec. 14th, 1835. 36—3.

THE Subscriber will pay seven pence half penny per bushel for ashes, in goods, at his Store.

OREN J. KEMP. Frelighsburg, Dec. 15, 1835. 36 tf.

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber particularly requests all persons indebted to him to make payment, previous to the 10th January next.

GRAIN and PINE SAW LOGS will be received in payment.

G. FRELIGH. Bedford, 5th Dec. 1835. 35—tf.

THE subscriber will pay CASH for PORK, BUTTER, WHEAT and OATS.

H. M. CHANDLER. Frelighsburg, Dec. 15th 1835. 36—tf.

CASH, and a liberal price, paid for PORK, WHEAT, CORN, OATS, RYE, PEAS, BEANS, & FLAX SEED, by W. W. SMITH. Missiskoui Bay. 36 tf.

LANDS FOR SALE.

NOS. 3 & 6 in seventh range of Sutton, west half of No. 3 in seventh range of Pottou. These lands are well situated, commanded by good roads and mills, and in thick settlements, and the first quality. For particulars enquire of the Editor of the Standard.

This is to forbid any one from cutting timber or settling on them, as they will be prosecuted with the utmost rigour.

NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the Estate of the late GEORGE COOK, Esquire, of St. Armand, deceased, are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned Executors, and all to whom the said Estate may be indebted, to present their claims to her for liquidation.

JANE COOK, } Executors.
JACOB COOK, }
RALPH TAYLOR, }
St. Armand, October 27, 1835.

Succession of the late Edward Rafferty, deceased.

NOTICE.

THE subscriber being duly appointed Curator to the said succession, requests all persons having claims against the same to present them duly attested, and all who are indebted thereto, to make immediate payment.

JAMES M'CANNA. Frelighsburg, October 13, 1835. 27—12w.

NOTICE.

This is to forbid any one from trusting Mary Ann Bennett my late wife, who left my bed and board without any cause, about nine months since, and went off with a married man, as I will pay no debts of her contracting since she left me.

JOHN TABER PRENTIS. Sutton, 27th Nov. 1835. 34—3w.

NOTICE & PARTICULAR NOTICE.

THOSE who are indebted to Abraham Le-grange of St. Armand, will readily believe that he has been sufficiently lenient to them;—has not been oppressive, but now demands a settlement of all Notes and Book Accounts.—If this notice is disregarded, they will find their accounts in the hands of a Bailiff for Collection.

ABRAHAM LEGRANGE. St. Armand, Nov. 29th, 1835. 34—tf.

STORE, ASHERY, BLACKSMITH'S SHOP, & DWELLING HOUSES TO LET.

In whole or in parts.

THE premises being those occupied by the late George Cook Esq. Merchant, and forming a country Merchant, one of the best situations in the Province.

They stand within two miles of the line, on the public road leading North from Franklin in Vermont to Montreal, and on that leading East from Missiskoui Bay to Frelighsburg, and within 55 miles of Montreal.

The houses are in most excellent order and a beautiful garden is attached.

Such an opening seldom occurs and deserves the attention of a man of enterprise.—For particulars apply to JANE COOK. Cooksville, St. Armand, } 29th November, 1835. 34—tf.

POETRY.

THE WIFE'S PRAYER.

A woman's hand traced the following lines, which only woman's true and fond heart could have inspired.—*New York American.*

Thy young wife kneeling to her God,
Seems brighter far in this lone scene
Than when our halls of mirth she trod,
Mid Fashion's throng, a worshipp'd queen!

Gaze on—the love that fills her heart
New charms hath lent to cheek and brow—
Gaze on—but hush! the pure lip's part,
Perchance for thee she's pleading now.

Hear me thou who mark'st each feeling,
Thou who know'st each passion's sway;
At thy sacred altar kneeling
For a being lov'd I pray!

He is dearer than the mother
Who hath been my life's fond guide—
He is dearer than a brother,
Though a brother's still my pride.

Oft ere summer's bloom had perish'd
For the lover's love I plead—
Father! on the husband cherished
New thy choicest blessings shed!

In all "peril and temptation"
Guard him with thy holy might;
Mid the charms of power and station,
Keep a noble spirit bright.

Bless him, Father! he is starting
Proudly for the goal of fame—
Oh! may every year departing
Add fresh laurels to his name!

Grant him Genius' inspiration—
Wisdom's eloquence divine—
He is pledged unto a nation,
Let him in her councils shine.

Be his guide—and for earth's sorrow,
For the blight, the cloud, the thorn,
So prepare him, that each morrow
On a fearless heart may dawn.

Father! if the love I bear him
Bends his path a brighter way,
If that love one pang can spare him,
Aid me still to cheer his way.

Should his manhood's prime be shaded,
Let him on this heart repose—
It will prove when joys are faded,
Desert spring and forest rose.

Strengthen, guard and guide him ever!
May he glory in love's chain,
Till his link thy angel sever,
Ne'er on earth to clasp again.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT OF LOWER CANADA.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

Friday, 4th Dec. 1835.

The following votes passed in committee

£1100 16 4 to reimburse the corporation

of Quebec, the expenses incurred by

them for sanitary purposes in 1834.

£1374 18 4 to reimburse the sanitary com-

mittee at Montreal, the expenses incur-

red by them in 1834.

£102 0 0 to pay the salaries of the medi-

cal practitioners employed by the sani-

tary committee at Montreal to attend the

hospitals for cholera patients in 1834.

£15 0 0 to pay J. B. Saucer for having

buried certain persons who died of chol-

era at Montreal in 1834.

34 0 0 to pay D. Anderson for his attend-

ance and services at the cholera hospital

at Lachine in 1834.

49 10 0 to pay Dr. Francois Fortier, the

balance due him for his services as health

officer at Quebec in 1832.

25 0 0 to pay Dr. Lacroix of Chateaugay,

balance due him for professional services

during the prevalence of the cholera in

1832.

37 1 9 1/2 to pay Dr. Parant balance of his

salary as visiting physician at Quebec in

1834.

303 10 0 to pay Dr. Tessier for his servi-

ces as health officer at Quebec in 1830

and 1831.

100 0 0 as an aid to the lady managers of

the orphan asylum at Quebec.

150 0 0 to the corporation of the Mag-

dalen asylum at Montreal.

75 0 0 as an aid to the lady managers of

the orphan asylum in St. Roch suburbs,

Quebec.

600 0 0 for the maintenance of the found-

lings in the general hospital of Grey

nuns at Montreal from 10th October,

1834, to 10th October, 1835.

600 0 0 for Do. do. from 10th October,

1835, to 10th October, 1836.

24 6 0 balance of expense incurred by

the Grey nuns at Montreal, in maintain-

ing the insane persons in their institu-

tion for the year ended 10th October,

1835.

73 0 0 for the maintenance of the insane

persons at Montreal during the year end-

ing 10th October, 1836.

100 0 0 as an aid to the Ladies charitable

society at Montreal, towards supporting

the orphans under their care.

100 0 0 as an aid to the ladies benevolent

society at Montreal, towards supporting

the Widows and orphans under their pro-

tection.

£50 0 0 as an aid for the orphan asylum

at Montreal.

£3863 15 4 sterling, to indemnify the late

Governor-in-Chief for the sums by him

advanced out of the public monies, to

defray the expenses of the Quarantine

establishment at Grosse-Isle in 1834.

£2335 18 8 reimburse the commissioners

for the support of insane persons, invalids

and foundlings for the district of Quebec

the expenses incurred by them during the

year ended 10th October, 1835.

£511 0 0 for the support of the infirm

persons in the general hospital at Quebec

for the year ending 10th October 1836.

£425 16 8 to provide for the support of

insane persons in the district of Quebec

during the same period.

£25 0 0 to pay a keeper for the said insane

persons, during the same period.

£100 0 0 to provide clothing for the infirm

persons at Quebec, during the same peri-

od.

£885 0 0 for the support of foundlings in

the district of Quebec, during the same

period.

£50 0 0 to pay a matron to take charge

of the said foundlings, for the same peri-

od.

£15 0 0 to provide clothing for the said

foundlings for the same period.

£200 0 0 for the relief of indigent sick

persons in the hotel Dieu at Quebec,

during the same period.

£98 14 9 to Dr. Beaubien, being the bal-

ance of his salary as physician to the

cholera hospital at Montreal in 1832.

Mr. Caron then introduced a bill to pro-

vide for the support of diverse charitable

institutions, and for other purposes therein

mentioned; second reading Monday next.

The house went into committee on the

seamens' wages Recovery bill, and rose for

want of a quorum.

Saturday 5th December, 1835.

On motion of Mr. Vanfelson, the coun-

cil's amendments to the bill to repeal cer-

tain parts of an ordinance therein mention-

ed, concerning persons to be admitted to

practise the law, or to practise as notaries

in this province, were concurred in.

On motion of Mr. Dubord, an address

was voted his Excellency, for a statement

of the amount of monies in the public chest

at the time of the appointment of the hon-

orable John Hale as receiver general of this

province, and also, an account current of

the sums received and paid by the said re-

ceiver general, during each year, up to the

10th October 1835, shewing the sums paid

by the several departments of the public

services into the public chest of the prov-

ince, and the sums paid by the said re-

ceiver general, and by what authority, and

for what purposes they were so paid.

Mr. Secretary Walcott delivered the fol-

lowing message:

GOSFORD, Governor-in-Chief.

The Governor in Chief transmits for the

information of the House of Assembly, a

copy of a letter, together with plans, spec-

ifications and estimates, from the commis-

sioners appointed under the act of the 4th

Will. IV cap. 13, to ascertain the most eli-

gible site and plan for, and the probable

cost of a custom house for the port of

Montreal, and invites the attention of the

house to this subject.

Castle of St. Lewis, Quebec, 15th Dec.

1835.

On motion of Mr. Leslie, the said mes-

sage with the accompanying documents, were

referred to a special committee.

Mr. Walcott also delivered at the bar,

various copies of correspondence respect-

ing the appointment of commissioners for

small causes in the county of Acadie, which

were referred to the committee on small

causes bill,—also, various documents on

the subject of grants of land, which were

referred to the committee on lands and

seigniorial rights, and also, petitions and

correspondence praying for the appointment

of commissioners for small causes in the

county of Beauharnois.

The bill to regulate the notarial profes-

sion was ordered to be engrossed.

The following resolution passed in com-

mittee yesterday:

Resolved, that it is expedient that a sum

not exceeding £1800 currency, be grant-

ed to his Majesty, to aid the inhabitants of

the parish of Ste. Anne la perade, in con-

structing a bridge over the river Ste. Anne

in the said parish, in the county of Cham-

plain, from the public wharf near the

church to the Island belonging to Louis

Baribeau, and thence across the South

western channel of the said river to the

main land of the opposite shore, on con-

dition that the inhabitants aforesaid shall

give good and sufficient security that they

will complete the said bridge at their own

expense.

Mr. P. A. Dorion then introduced a

bill to appropriate a certain sum of money

for the construction of a bridge over Ste.

Anne; second reading Friday next.

The St. Charles free bridge bill was read

the second time and referred to a special

committee, yeas 26, Nays 23.

The bill relating to rafts, scows and the

pilots thereof passing between Chateaugay

and Montreal, was read the second

time, and referred to a special committee.

The second reading of the bill relating

to the new Hall of Assembly, was defer-

red till Wednesday next.

The house went into committee on the

seaman's wages recovery bill; to sit again

Wednesday next.

The house went into committee on Mr.

Clapham's motion of the 30th ultimo, for

an address to the Governor for communi-

cation of certain papers relating to monies

advanced from the military chest, and rose

without reporting.

The house went into committee and pas-

sed a resolution declaring that it is ex-

pedient to explain and amend the parochial

subdivisions act, and also the act or ordi-

nance concerning the building and repair-

ing of churches, &c. which was reported,

concurred in, and referred to a special com-

mittee.

The bill to amend and extend the pro-

visions of the Champlain and St. Law-

rence Rail Road Act, was amended in com-

mittee; to be reported Monday next.

The consideration of the St. Francis

Judicature bill was deferred till Saturday

next, Yeas 37, Nays 4.

The County Court Houses and Gaols

Bill was amended in committee, to be re-

ported Monday next.

Long Stories.—Capt. S., of the—

regiment, during the American war, was

notorious for a propensity, not to story-

telling, but to telling long stories, which he

used to indulge in defiance of time and

place, often to the great annoyance of his

immediate companions; but he was so

good-humoured withal, that they were loth

to check him abruptly or harshly. An

opportunity occurred of giving him a hint

which had the desired effect. He was a

member of a courtmartial assembled for the

trial of a private of the regiment. The

man bore a very good character in general,

the offence he had committed was slight,

and the court was rather at a loss what

punishment to award, for it was requisite

to award some, as the man had been found

guilty. While they were deliberating on

this, Major—, now general Sir—, sud-

denly turning to the president, said, in his

dry manner, 'suppose we sentence him to

hear two of Captain S—,s long sto-

ries.'

ANECDOTE.—A schoolmaster, while

surrounded by his scholars at a night

school, was engaged writing a copy, lis-

tening at the same time to some young

men, apprentices, reciting a lesson in the

testament, and was favoured by one of